

Appl. No. 10/625,823
Reply to Office Action of 12/28/2005

Attorney Docket No. WS-102

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1,2, 5 and 6 were amended. Claims 3,4 7-15 remain unchanged. Claims 16-28 were previously withdrawn, as being drawn to a non-elected invention. The election was made without traverse.

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 were amended to specify that the contactless smart card module is a contactless smart card reader/writer module, as was described in the detailed description of the invention paragraph 0025.

The Examiner rejected independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Giraud et al. (US Patent Application Publication U.S. 2005/0050437). The Examiner argued that "Giraud teaches a wireless mobile device adapted to access a wireless network comprising a subscriber identification module (SIM) card slot and a contactless smart card module electrically connected to said SIM card slot and wherein said contactless smart card module is adapted to receive and read information stored in a contactless smart card and transmit said information to an entity via said wireless network (Page 3, [0040];Giraud)" (Page 2 of the present Office Action, Paragraph 3).

The Applicant believes that the Examiner's above mentioned statement is incorrect. Referring to Giraud et al, Page 3, [0040], " the terminal station TS1, TS2 includes a central processing unit CPU1, CPU2 which is provided with a reader for reading an add-on smart card SC1 SC2, also referred to as a "micro-controller card" or as an "integrated-circuit-card". The central processing unit CPU1, CPU2 can be, inter alia, a mobile telephone terminal, in which the Subscriber Identification Module (SIM) is distinct from the add-on smart card SC1, SC2. The link between the smart card SC1, SC2 and the central processing unit CPU1, CPU2 is conventional and can be a link via electrical contact or a "contactless" link,...". In other words, Giraud teaches that there is a conventional link between the smart card SC1 and the mobile phone (i.e., CPU1) and the

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link can be via electrical contact or contactless. Giraud does not mention anything regarding the connection of the card reader/writer module to the mobile phone and it certainly does not teach connecting a contactless smart card reader/writer module to the mobile phone via the SIM slot.

We would like to point out the following differentiation of the present invention from Giraud. According to claim 1, the wireless mobile device of this invention comprises a slot for receiving a SIM card and a reader/writer module that is adapted to receive contactless smart cards. The reader/writer module is electrically connected to the wireless mobile device via the SIM card slot. Giraud's CPU1 may be a mobile phone and may be provided with a reader, but Giraud's reader is not connected to the mobile phone via the SIM card slot of the mobile phone.

In the prior art, a card reader is usually attached to a device either via a serial or a parallel interface of the device. The novelty of this invention is in the fact that the contactless card reader is attached to the mobile communication device via the SIM card slot of the mobile communication device.

Accordingly, since Giraud does not teach connecting a contactless card reader to a mobile communication device via the SIM slot of the mobile communication device, the 102 rejection of claim 1 based on Giraud is overcome.

Claims 2-15 depend directly or indirectly upon claim 1 and since claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the cited prior art they should also be distinguishable from the cited prior art.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claims 1-15 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and objections is requested and allowance of all claims at an early date is solicited.

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If this response is found to be incomplete, or if a telephone conference would otherwise be helpful, please call the undersigned at 617-558-5389

Respectfully submitted,



Aliko K. Collins, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 43,558

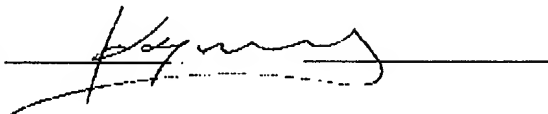
AKC Patents, 215 Grove Street, Newton, MA 02466

TEL: 617-558-5389, FAX: 617-332-0371

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Date of Deposit 3/17/2006

Name: Aliko K. Collins, Ph.D. Signature



I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.10 that this correspondence is being faxed on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450